

Vocabulary Review

(continued)

Name: _____

Date: _____

✓ **Mood:** The overall feeling—light and happy or dark and brooding, for example—created by an author's choice of words.

✓ **Narrator:** The speaker who tells the story. If the narrator is also a character who participates in the story, it is important not to confuse the narrator with the author—who may, in fact, hold a very different attitude toward the story.

✓ **Point of view:** The perspective from which a story is told.

Point of view is said to be **omniscient** if the author is outside the story and presents the thoughts of all the characters involved.

Point of view is called **limited** when the story is told from the viewpoint of one character who can see only a part of the whole story.

✓ **Protagonist:** The central character of the story.

✓ **Resolution:** The conclusion of the story. The resolution includes the story's action after the climax until the end of the story.

✓ **Rising action:** The part of the story, including exposition, in which the tension rises. Rising action builds to its highest point of tension at the story's climax.

13 ✓ **Setting:** The environment in which the story takes place.

Structure: The framework that determines how a story is put together—its "skeleton." The structure of many stories includes four basic parts: exposition, complication, climax, and resolution.

7 ✓ **Style:** The characteristic ways that an individual author uses language—including word choice, length and complexity of sentences, patterns of sound, and use of imagery and symbols.

Suspense: Techniques used by the author to keep readers interested in the story and wondering what will happen next.

Symbol: An image, object, character, or action that stands for an idea (or ideas) beyond its literal meaning.

3 ✓ **Theme:** The story's main ideas—the "message" that the author intends to communicate by telling the story. Themes are often universal truths that are suggested by the specifics of the story.

4 ✓ **Tone:** The clues in a story that suggest the writer's (or narrator's) own attitude toward elements of his or her story.

5 ✓ **Understatement:** A figure of speech in which the speaker says less than what he or she actually feels.

Verbal irony: The use of figures of speech such as hyperbole and understatement to create an ironic effect.